

**Agenda for the Sept. 22, 1999 DHT Board of Trustees Meeting
Miami River Inn**

5:30 p.m.--Refreshments; 6:00 p.m.--**Call to order**--President Enid Pinkney

Approval of Minutes

Treasurer's Report--Bill Murphy

Dues--Some Board members have not yet paid their \$100 Board dues

Preservation Today--Board support essential for ads

Grants pending for: Dade Heritage Days; "Saving and Seeing Historic Sites";
Wagner Homestead and Ft. Dallas

Executive Directors Report: Becky Matkov

New part-time staff--Debbie Hackett

Newsletter--thanks to Dolly MacIntyre!

"Dollars and Sense" Restoration Workshop--Action Plan now underway

Revolving Fund--Need Committee to develop Action Plan

Miami Circle--Press conference; Fundraising; Publicity

Miami's Historic Neighborhoods Book--profile your business!

Lummas Park --Proposal for DHT to manage a Heritage Visitors Center

President's Report: Enid Pinkney

Committee Reports:

Membership and Volunteers---Dolly MacIntyre

Historic Tours--Judy Pruitt

City Cemetery--Penny Lambeth

Dade Heritage Days--Jeanette Poole

Fundraiser at Deering Estate--Luis Ajamil--**Need a committee!**

Advocacy--Gene Tinnie

Education--Ruth Jacobs

Mark your Calendar:

*Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m., Luis Ajamil's office, 2601 Bayshore--Building Bridges
Fundraiser Committee meeting*

October 7, 6:30 p.m.--Koubek Center--DHT Membership Meeting

Oct. 10, 6-8 p.m.--Miami Circle Fundraiser at Fairchild Tropical Garden

Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m.--Meeting at DHT for Dade Heritage Days participants

December TBA--DHT Holiday Party--?

January 16, 3 p.m.--Florida Trust party and reception at Bonnet House

Next Board Meeting: October 27th--?

DHT P & L August 1999
08/01/99 Through 08/31/99

Category Description	08/01/99- 08/31/99
INCOME	
3100-Membership Dues	2,485.00
3200-Donations	50.00
3350-Advertising Income	287.50
3400-Publication Sales	657.90
3500-Meeting/Event Income	245.00
3900-Interest Income	9.42
3901-Investment/Dividend Income	191.88
TOTAL INCOME	3,926.70
EXPENSES	
5000-Salary Expenses	5,325.86
5115-DHT Meetings - catering	9.14
5600-Utilities	178.11
5700-Insurance	5,302.70
5999-Miscellaneous Expenses	35.00
6010-Payroll Taxes	412.97
6015-Medical Insurance	341.00
6300-Payroll Processing Service	76.00
6320-Telephone	297.38
6500-Bank Charges	0.00
6521-Credit Card discount fee - membership sales	2.80
6610-Equipment - Lease & Maintenance	368.53
6810-Postage	100.00
6840-Alarm Monitoring	75.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	12,524.49
TOTAL INCOME - EXPENSES	-8,597.79

Executive Director's Report for Sept. 22, 1999 DHT Board Meeting

Community Outreach and Meetings Attended

July 23--Discussion with Rem Cabrera re Cultural Affairs grant

July 23--Call to US Rep. Carrie Meek's office to encourage support of Graham's bill re Miami Circle

August 5--Met with overnor's Council for Sustainable Florida

August 11--Talked with Mrs. Frances Walker re donation of maps of Ives Dairy Farm area

August 18--Executive Committee meeting; met with Krassi Ivanov and Tour Committee re Historic Tours

August 20--Met with Barry Black and Flora Tartaglia re **Miami's Historic Neighborhoods** book

August 23--Met with Governor's Council for Sustainable Florida

August 25--Met with Fundraising committee meeting

August 30--Met with Carol Jacobs of Bernard Zysovich re **Preservation Today**; Met with Krassi Ivanov re Lummus Park and tours

August 31--Met with DHT Historic Tours Committee and City staff re Lummus Park as heritage visitors center

September 1--Met with Flora Tartaglia re leads for **Miami's Historic Neighborhoods** book profiles

September 7--Met with Krassi Ivanov re Lummus Park

September 8--Met with Historic Tour Committee;
Met with Dade Heritage Days Committee
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September 9-- Participated in Press Conference re Congressional funding for preservation which would help Miami Circle;
Met with Miami Circle Task Force;
Met with Restoration Workshop Committee

September 13--Met with Enid and School Administrators from Roger Cuevas's office: Carol Cortes, Joe Mathos and Paul Phillips

September 16--Attended GMCVB's Invitation to the Arts at TOPA

September 17--Attended reception and dinner for Stanley Lowe, Scott Brown and Dan Holland, speakers from Pittsburgh for "Dollars and Sense Restoration Workshop"

September 18--Spoke at and supervised "Dollars and Sense Restoration Workshop" at Omni's Wyndham Hotel

September 21--Met with Dolly MacIntyre, Penny Lambeth and Debbie Tackett re PR plan; Executive Committee meeting

Administrative and Fundraising

Wrote and submitted Dade Heritage Days grant to Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council

Wrote and submitted "Saving and Seeing Historic Sites" grant to State Bureau of Historic Preservation

Wrote letter to 900 National Trust members to invite them to join DHT and mailed along with our **Preservation Today News**

Helped coordinate Miami Circle press conference

Secured free plane ticket from USAirways for Stanley Lowe

Obtained legislative letters of support for grants and wrote DHT support letters

Hired new staff person for Special Events and Dade Heritage Days

Arranged travel and logistics for upcoming Oct. 7th restoration meeting

Miami Historic Neighborhoods
01/01/99 Through 09/22/99

Date	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Amount
02/22/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Lammert Publications	3400/036	3,000.00
04/22/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Royalties - Lammert Publications	3400/036	438.00
05/04/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Lammert Publications	3400/036	180.00
05/10/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods Royalti...	3400/036	210.00
05/26/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	4,000.00
05/27/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	150.00
06/07/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Lammert Publications - MHN	3400/036	285.00
06/25/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	120.00
07/12/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	60.00
07/29/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	393.15
08/27/99	DEP ...	Deposit	Miami Historic Neighborhoods	3400/036	657.90
TOTAL 01/01/99 - 09/22/99					9,494.05
TOTAL INFLOWS					9,494.05
TOTAL OUTFLOWS					0.00
NET TOTAL					9,494.05

Preservation Today - Advertisements Sold

date	Name	Ad	Rate	Total	Previous Balance	Pmt. Rcvd.	Balance
20-Aug	All Florida Adventure Tours	1/2 page	325.00	325.00	0.00	162.50	162.50
	Antillean Marine	back cover	550.00	550.00	0.00		550.00
	Leslie Pantin	business card	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00
	Miami Dade Preservation League	full page	450.00	450.00	325.00		775.00
	Marilyn Cesarno, Esq.			0.00	0.00		0.00
15-Sep	Peters Robertson Demahy Parsons	1/2 page	325.00	325.00	0.00	325.00	0.00
13-Sep	Bermello, Ajamil	1/4 page	200.00	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
13-Sep	J Poole	inside cover	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
	Hayes Briscoe Associates	business card	125.00	125.00		125.00	0.00
	Downtown Main Street - N. Fritz	inside back	500.00	500.00			500.00
	Totals:			\$ 3,100.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 1,437.50	\$ 2,112.50

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**DADE
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Do you love:

Historic Tours?

Old Houses and Unique Gardens?

Historic Neighborhoods and Architecture?

Landmarks that can never be replaced?

Communities with a rich sense of heritage and place?

Then I invite you to join Dade Heritage Trust, the largest historic preservation nonprofit organization in South Florida. Since 1972, Dade Heritage Trust has worked to preserve the architectural, cultural and environmental heritage of Miami-Dade County.

We restore landmarks

like the Cape Florida Lighthouse on Key Biscayne

Dr. Jackson's Office and Surgery off Brickell Avenue

and the Wagner Homestead in Lummus Park on the Miami River.

We advocate

for historic resources like the Miami Circle and the Freedom Tower

for heritage education in schools

for tax incentives for the restoration of historic buildings

for revitalizing neighborhoods and creating Main Street programs.

We educate

with historic and architectural tours

open houses, workshops, lectures and exhibits

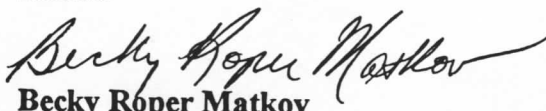
a quarterly newsletter

the beautiful Preservation Today magazine

and Dade Heritage Days, our spring celebration of South

Florida's history and architecture, with over 100 events.

What the National Trust for Historic Preservation does across this country, we do locally. Won't you support our efforts by joining? Your contribution would mean so much to our fight to preserve the best of the past for the future.



**Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director**

(OVER)

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August 3, 1999

Secretary Katherine Harris
Department of State
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL . 32300-0250

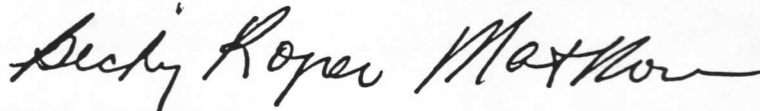
Dear Secretary Harris,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the Colony Theater's application for a Cultural Facilities grant.

Built in the 1930s as a Paramount movie theater, the Colony is poised to be a valuable cultural asset for our future. This grant will enable the Colony to host a wider range of performances on its stage and to become ADA compliant, making it accessible to all our citizens.

Your support of this grant application is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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August 4, 1999

Ms. Ellen Uguccioni
Director, Historic Preservation Department
City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Ellen,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the nomination of Gay Bondurant to the Historic Preservation Board of Coral Gables.

Gay is a long-time resident of Coral Gables who has been very involved in her community. She regularly gives Sunday tours of the Biltmore Hotel and has orchestrated numerous walking and trolley tours and conferences showcasing the heritage of Coral Gables.

Gay is a very knowledgeable preservationist who served on the Board of Trustees of Dade Heritage Trust for six years. For three years, she coordinated --as a volunteer-- Dade Heritage Days--an extraordinary accomplishment and commitment. She now serves on our DHT Board of Advisors and is an active and valued participant in many activities in the preservation arena.

Gay Bondurant would make an excellent addition to the Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

CEXAE

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August 10, 1999

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**EXECUTIVE
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Becky Roper Matkov

Ms. Sharon Taylor
US AIRWAYS
Fax: 703-872-5656

**Re: Donation of Three Plane Tickets for Historic Preservation
Conference in Miami**

Dear Ms. Taylor,

Dade Heritage Trust, Miami's largest historic preservation 501(C)3, nonprofit organization, in cooperation with the City of Miami Alliance of Historic Districts, is sponsoring a conference Saturday, September 18, 1999 at the Wyndham Biscayne Bay in Miami, Fl., on the "Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods." The registration fee has been kept low—only \$17.50 per person, including lunch—to attract people from a wide range of economic levels. We expect over 200 to attend, including U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw and many civic leaders.

Our guest speakers will include three nationally acclaimed experts from Pittsburgh, Pa.—Director of Public Housing Stanley Lowe, and preservationists Howard Slaughter and Scott Brown— who will share their extensive experience in revitalizing Pittsburgh's blighted neighborhoods and historic districts.

We would very much appreciate your supporting this conference with a donation of 3 US AIRWAYS roundtrip tickets from Pittsburgh to Miami for Friday, September 17, 1999 with a return on Sunday, September 19. As a conference donor, US AIRWAYS will be named in the news releases we are mailing to local and statewide media, in the thousands of flyers we are distributing to our members, in the articles in our newsletters, and in the conference program.

Thank you very much for your prompt consideration.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

Phone: 305-358-9572; Fax: 305-358-1162

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August 16, 1999

25th Anniversary Year

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Becky Roper Matkov

Cultural Affairs Advisory Board
City of Coral Gables
C/O Ellen Uguccioni
City Hall
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Members,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to encourage you to fund "A Guidebook to Coral Gables Architecture" by Richard Heisenbottle, Ellen Uguccioni and Aristides Millas.

The authors are seeking to produce this self-guided tour booklet in time for the national conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, which will be held at the Biltmore Hotel in June 2000. This will be a wonderful opportunity to present the history and sites of Coral Gables to an appreciative and knowledgeable audience from across the country.

In addition, the guidebooks will be of great value and interest to the public during Dade Heritage Days, our annual springtime celebration of Miami-Dade County's architectural and cultural heritage.

We urge your financial support of this most worthwhile undertaking.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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August 20, 1999

Mr. Pablo Chao, Director
University of Miami Koubek Center
2705 S.W. 3rd Street
Miami, FL 33135

Dear Mr. Chao,

As promised, I am enclosing a photo from our Dade Heritage Trust Preservation Awards Celebration at Gusman Cultural Center on May 18, 1999, showing our President Enid Pinkney presenting Dean Carol Holden and you a 1999 Preservation Award for the restoration of the University of Miami's Koubek Center. We would be delighted for you to reprint it in your publications and press releases.

We would also love to feature the Koubek Center as the site of a program on preservation and neighborhood revitalization which we are planning for Thursday evening, October 7, 1999. Harriett Plyler, a dynamic community leader from Tampa and an engaging speaker who has spoken at National Trust conferences, is going to present a slide show on how her small nonprofit organization established a \$20 million revolving fund for the blighted Tampa Heights neighborhood, turning the whole area around to national acclaim. It is a story Dade Heritage Trust would love to duplicate in Miami, possibly in East Little Havana.

The Koubek Center would be an ideal location for this event, which will be open to the public, with reservations and a minimal charge required. We would envision a wine and cheese reception outside, tours of the historic house, and a presentation in the auditorium which would include the story of the Koubek Center restoration and Harriett's slide presentation.

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**EXECUTIVE
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Becky Roper Matkov

August 24, 1999

Mrs. John C. Walker
Walker Horse Farm
1101 Ives Dairy Road
North Miami Beach, FL 33179

Dear Mrs. Walker,

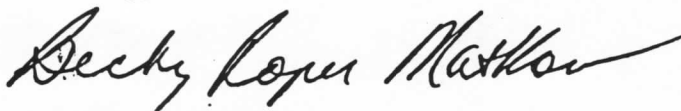
I so enjoyed meeting with you and Mr. Walker earlier this summer and seeing your beautiful horse farm and house--what a fascinating history it has! It was a genuine pleasure visiting with you both.

Dade Heritage Trust, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, so appreciates your donating five maps to our historic preservation organization. We had the maps appraised by Dr. Joe Fitzgerald, and his appraisal is attached. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

We wish you well in your plans to move--though we would love to see you stay close to Miami and become an active member of Dade Heritage Trust. You have so many wonderful memories to share!

I hope to see you again in the near future.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

Appraisal of Plats

Appraiser: Joseph H. Fitzgerald
Address: 1829 Espanola Drive Tel. (305) 446-8129
Miami, FL 33133

Purpose: Appraisal done for Dade Heritage Trust to
evaluate a donation from Mrs. Frances
Walker for tax deduction.

Client: Dade Heritage Trust

Qualifications of Appraiser: See enclosure.

Items: 5 Plat maps - see individual listing.

Description: All items were inspected by me and found to be in
fair condition. Some tears at the edges are present
and the paper has deteriorated as expected for
wood pulp paper stored in a less than archival
environment. No attempt at restoration has been
made. Most items are rolled.

Basis for evaluation: Except as noted on Item #5, most of the items
have little intrinsic value as collectors' items.
Consequently, sale price would be negligible.
However, the value of Items #1 through #4 is in
their local history value. Quite often plats such as
these are discarded and consequently the surviving
pieces are becoming scarce. Any study of local
history, geography, or development relies in part on
images such as these. Therefore, they are of great
value to local historians, developers, economists and
environmentalists for their factual content. The
only other sources of similar facts are word
descriptions which necessarily fall short. Any
image derived from such word descriptions is
conjectural and consequently subject to inaccuracy
and misinterpretation.

Total value of All Items = \$175.

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August 26, 1999

Mr. George W. Percy
State Historic Preservation Officer
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street #305
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Percy,

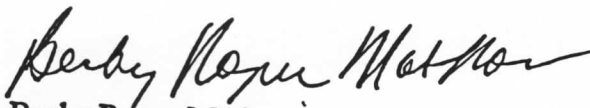
In behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to encourage your support of the grant application by the City of Miami Beach for the restoration of Fire Station #2.

Miami Beach is to be commended on its leadership in preserving historic resources. The Miami Beach Fire Department completed a full restoration of their earliest firehouse, and they are now ready to restore # 2, which will enhance even more Miami Beach's architecturally and historically rich environment.

We urge your support of this worthy undertaking.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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August 30, 1999

Mr. George Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 323999-0250

Dear Mr. Percy,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to support the grant application submitted by the City of Opa-locka through its Historic Preservation Board. The grant application requests funding to conduct an updated survey of the historic preservation properties in the city.

The City of Opa-locka is to be commended for demonstrating a commitment to preserving its historic character. We encourage your support of their efforts.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

August 31, 1999

Save America's Treasures
Preservation Planning Fund
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20036

Re: The City of Miami Beach's Old City Hall

Dear Save America's Treasures Staff:

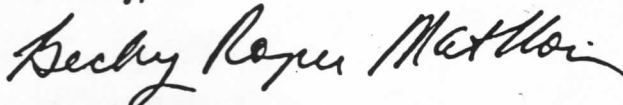
On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to support the City of Miami Beach's application for a grant from the Preservation Planning Fund for Old City Hall, an Official Project of *Save America's Treasures*. Old City Hall is an imposing, nine-story building built in 1927 and situated in the famed Art Deco Historic District of the National Register of Historic Places. In 1983 Old City Hall was individually designated a local historic structure.

Architecturally, Old City Hall is a flagship example of the Mediterranean Revival style, the "style of choice" during the first economic boom in the early 1930's on Miami Beach. More importantly, Old City Hall was the heart of the Miami Beach municipal government for over 50 years. Today, it functions as a mixed use building which includes a municipal courthouse.

Forever an elegant beacon of hope and heritage, Old City Hall represents the unwavering resolve of the Miami Beach community. It is a treasured part of our cultural heritage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

SAMPLE LETTER OF SUPPORT

**Mr. George Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
and Members of the Historic Preservation Advisory Council
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250**

Dear Mr. Percy and Council Members,

We are writing to encourage your support of Dade Heritage Trust's Community Education grant application entitled "Saving and Seeing Historic Sites: Using Heritage Tourism to Preserve Historic Resources."

This project will create a series of unique tours of historic sites in South Florida including a women's heritage tour that will tie in with the women's history curriculum in the public schools. The project will also provide a first-rate website that is a preservation and heritage tourism resource center for our region, and will produce a publication spotlighting our local heritage sites and the economic benefits of heritage tourism. By linkages with other organizations locally, nationally and internationally, and by Dade Heritage Trust's extensive marketing efforts, this project will be of enormous benefit to our local community and the State of Florida.

We urge your favorable consideration.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Betsy Roper Matkov

DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST

September 17, 1999

Ms. Patricia Manfred
2181 Ocean View
Miami Beach, FL 33140

Dear Ms. Manfred,

Thank you so much for your tax deductible contribution of \$50 to Dade Heritage Trust's "Save Our Circle" Fund. As the historic preservation nonprofit organization that has taken the lead in efforts to save the "Miami Circle" on its original site on the Miami River, Dade Heritage Trust greatly appreciates your support of preserving the Miami Circle intact for the future.

The Miami Circle is truly a remarkable archeological discovery. Carbon dating has shown that it is at least 2000 years old, possibly much older. Thirty-eight feet in diameter and carved four-feet deep into the limestone bedrock, the Circle has a precisely cut east-west alignment to the equinox. Lead archeologist Bob Carr has stated that it is the only cut-stone circle formation found in the United States, and it is a finding of national—even international—significance.

As you may know, Florida Governor Jeb Bush and the State Cabinet have voted to allocate up to half the cost of acquisition of the Circle site, providing the County raises the other half of the funds elsewhere.

In October, a jury will be seated to hear the case and determine the value of the land. Within twenty days of the jury's decision, Miami-Dade County must come up with the extra millions it will take to purchase the Miami Circle site—or the developer will be able to keep the Circle and develop it.

Your support means a lot to those of us who have been working so hard to save this priceless treasure. It has been truly wonderful to see how deeply this mysterious monument from the ancient past has affected so many people of all races and cultural backgrounds.

Just a few months ago, everyone told us it would be impossible to save the Miami Circle—there was nothing that could be done to save this one-of-a-kind archeological site. Today, the impossible is indeed possible. But it is not yet a

reality, as much fundraising, legal work, public policy and long-range visioning remains to be done. But the dream has been articulated, and the first powerful steps have been taken. Thank you for reaching out to help—and if you know of any others who will follow your example, please let us know!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Becky Roper Matkov".

Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

Dade Heritage Trust and
The Miami Alliance
of Historic Districts
Present

"The Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods"

**Saturday
September 18, 1999
9:00AM-3:00PM**

**Wyndham
Biscayne Bay Hotel
at Miami's Omni Center**

Bacardi-Martini USA, Shane Graber
Home Depot #209, Cynthia Crawford, Mgr., 5500 NW 167th Street
Home Depot #277, Gabriel Fernandez, Mgr., 3030 SW 8th Street
Eric Kail, Kail Real Estate

Angel Leon, International Bankers Financial Group
Christian Menzel, Videography
Yugo Morales, Tropical Land Investors
Office Depot

**Park One of Florida, Luis Guillermo
Luisa Rivera, Southern Flexible Packaging
Seal-Tite Plastics, Sherry Jude
Soyka restaurant**

Barbara Waldron, American Salvage

(We ask participants to patronize and thank our Sponsors and Contributors.)

Dade Heritage Trust, Inc,
190 SE 12th Terrace, Miami 33131, Phone 305-358-9572

Miami Alliance of Historic Districts
1000 NW North River Drive, Miami 33136, Phone 305-325-8730

Program

9:00AM Registration

9:15AM Welcome

Renee Menzel, Conference Chair
Ernie Martin, Chairman,

Alliance of Historic Neighborhoods

9:30AM Historic Tax Credits
U. S. Congressman Clay Shaw, Jr.

Introduced by Becky Roper Matkov,
Executive Director, Dade Heritage Trust

10:00AM Greetings from the Florida Trust
Heather Mitchell, Executive Director,

Florida Trust for Historic Preservation

10:15AM Keynote Panel: "The Dollars and Sense of
Saving Historic Neighborhoods"

Stanley Lowe, Director of Public Housing, Pittsburgh
Dan Holland, Initiative Fund Manager, Mon Valley Initiative
Scott Brown, Senior Vice President, Mellon Bank

12:30PM Working Lunch

Local Examples of Historic Preservation from West
Palm Beach, Coral Gables and Miami Beach
Introductions by **Cindy Haralson**, President, Bayside
Residents' Association

Speakers:

Nancy Liebman, Commissioner, City of Miami Beach
Sherri Piland, Historic Preservation Officer for the
City of West Palm Beach.

Ellen Uguccioni, Historic Preservation Director of the
City of Coral Gables

2:15P Panel Discussion

Moderator: **Patrick McCoy**, President of Morningside
Civic Association, with City officials and neighbor-
hood residents. Where do we go from here? What do
we need to do to help Miami and its residents reap the
economic benefits of their historic resources?
neighborhoods?

October 7, 1999

"Revolving Funds As A Tool For Preservation"
Featuring Harriet Plyler of Tampa Preservation, Inc.

University of Miami's Koubek Center, 2705 SW 3rd Street

Reception 6:30PM Program 7:30PM

DHT Members \$12 Nonmembers \$15 RSVP 305-358-9572

Expert: Preservation up to neighborhoods

By JO WERNE
Herald Staff Writer

Forget government. Forget the politicians. Neighborhoods concerned about historic preservation — maintaining their character, architecture and ambience — must do the job themselves. And they should go to foundations, preservation trusts and banks — not city hall — to get the money.

That was the message delivered Saturday to members of The Miami Alliance of Historic Districts by Stanley Lowe, director of

public housing in Pittsburgh, and the man who led a preservation fund-raising effort that generated \$600 million.

Sponsored by the Alliance and the Dade Heritage Trust, "The Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods" symposium at the Wyndham Biscayne Bay Hotel drew about 100 people.

Most were from Miami's four historic districts — Morningside, Buena Vista, Bayside and Spring Garden — which formed the Alliance five months ago in an effort to protect Miami's historic landmarks and neighborhoods.

Lowe, who tore down 700 houses in the early days of urban renewal before he discovered the economic benefits of preservation, said the mistake residents of historic neighborhoods make is thinking that government controls



Carl Hjaasen's column will resume when he returns from vacation. To read his past columns, see The Miami Herald Internet Edition at www.herald.com

PLEASE SEE RESTORATION, 3B

The Herald

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1999 F

Neighborhoods told to take lead on restoration efforts

RESTORATION, FROM 1B

their neighborhoods.

"You control your neighborhood. And you should know the banker better than the mayor, because the banker can help you more," said Lowe, who once had three banks bidding to finance one of his restoration projects.

In addition to the \$8 million one banker agreed to lend, Lowe told him that a \$200,000 grant was required for the privilege of participating in the project. He got the grant.

Lowe told Saturday's audience that like any business approaching a bank for a loan, a neighborhood must present a credit rating. For neighborhoods, a clean rating comes from a clean neighborhood: no gangs or illegal drug activity, identifying absentee property owners and demanding they repair dilapidated buildings or sell them, and documenting the value of every house, business and empty lot.

Lowe also told members of the historic neighborhood groups to buy empty lots and houses owned by absentee landlords. But none of neighborhoods are set up to do so.

He said they should apply for grants from foundations and preservation trusts before seeking money from banks for restoration of rundown properties, deteriorating business areas and parks.

"Take a plan to a banker and let him bid on your project," he said.

"Banks will finance a box [an ordinary building] in a minute if they think they'll make money from it."

Miami Beach Commissioner Nancy Liebman wore two hats at the forum — those of an elected official and preservationist. As a panelist along with the preservation officers of West Palm Beach and Coral Gables, she argued that governments cannot be left out of preservation efforts "because city hall does the zoning. Banks don't do it. Preservation has to be a partnership between the neighborhood and government."

Before South Beach became the Historic Art Deco District "banks had red-lined Miami Beach," Liebman said. "The city stepped in, worked with the Miami Design Preservation League and now banks are coming back into neighborhoods they had once ignored."

U.S. Rep. E. Clay Shaw, R-Fort Lauderdale, sponsored the Historic Homeowners Assistance Act, which would give tax benefits for preservation. Though it made it out of Congress, the act faces a presidential veto.

"Historic preservation is one of the most rewarding things you can do, if you have any appreciation of the people who lived here before us," Shaw said. "It's so easy to lose what we have. We owe it to our children to preserve much of what we have."

e-mail: jwerne@herald.com

There's no preservation without perseverance

It's going to be interesting to find out where Miami's city commissioners will be on the afternoon of Sept. 18. They've been invited to participate in a mid-afternoon panel discussion on preserving the city's historic neighborhoods. But then, that's the afternoon of the Miami-Penn. State football game.



HOWARD KLEINBERG

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

My chronic cynicism tells me the commissioners' aides will be at the panel discussion at the Wyndham Hotel and the commissioners at the game in the Orange Bowl. Perhaps I misjudge them — if so, I humbly apologize in advance.

Miami's relations with historic preservation are enigmatic. Schemingly bulldoz-

ers are allowed to ride rampant through historic buildings (the Priscilla Apartments, for example). Never, it seems, being a prime example. Miami is home to four officially designated historic districts: Morning Star, Bayside, Buena Vista and Spring Garden. (Morning Star, Bayside and Buena Vista are in Miami's northern section; Spring Garden is in the north-west just off the Miami River.)

With common interests and concern for their future, residents in the four districts have coalesced as the City of Miami Alliance of Historic Neighborhoods. They hope their combined effort will convince the city to be more diligent about protecting historic neighborhoods and not to grant variances that run counter to the identity of the districts.

Fortunately, the leadership includes some quite aggressive activists: resident Renee Menzies; Emile Martin, former Miami-Dade Community and Economic Development director; members of Dade

Heritage Trust and others such as Deanna Ponso and Cindy Harrison of the Baywood district, who put together the Sept. 18 program, entitled "The Dollars & Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods." The title is appropriate because homes in homogeneous neighborhoods, once properly restored, can increase in value.

Once a building is included in a historic district, it becomes more difficult to alter, willy-nilly. In the City of Miami, Historic and Environmental Preservation Board requires certification of appropriateness for changes. A stringent set of rules has been set down.

In Bayside, for instance, residents cannot add exterior security bars or fences, link-fencing that is visible from the street. There's no trading circular driveway for ordering a free-standing mailbox. And that's just a start.

While some may scoff at what they see as intransigence, what is being

maintaining the integrity of the neighborhood. There's no sense in keeping your house in conformity with the historic district while your neighbor is installing a mailbox pedestal that looks like a walrus. It can be hoped that the Sept. 18 program will interest Miami's and others in South Florida to plan similar programs in their districts and will provide greater understanding of historic preservation.

Keynote speaker will be Stanley Downer, present director of public housing for Pittsburgh but who was once special assistant to that city's mayor in charge of planning funds for Pittsburgh's successful historic preservation program. With him will be two other speakers from Pittsburgh who specialize in financial issues of historic preservation.

Sections begin at 9:15 a.m. Also scheduled to speak are U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw, Coral Gables Historic Preservation Director Ellen Ungerleider, Heather Mitchell, executive director of the Florida

Ida Trust for Historic Preservation; and attorney Victor Diaz, who was most active in compelling the just-concluded rebuilding of the Venetian Causeway bridges to conform to the original design.

Miami commissioners are scheduled at 2:15. It can be hoped participants will get to hear from commissioners' own mouths how they plan to pay more attention to their volunteer Historic and Environmental Preservation Boards, to city preservation director Sarah Eaton, to the coalition of historic districts and to the need to be more careful where they loose bulldozers and chainsaws in those districts and kindred neighborhoods, such as sections of Coconut Grove.

"The Dollars & Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods" will begin at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 18 at the Wyndham Hotel. Tickets are \$17.50 and include lunch. Call the Dade Heritage Trust at 358-9572 for info. (Dade Heritage Trust)

Dade Trust sponsors workshop

Property owners in historic neighborhoods and anyone who loves historic architecture will have a chance to learn how profitable restoration can be at a workshop to be held Saturday, Sept. 18 from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m. at the Wyndham Biscayne Bay at Miami's Omni.

U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw, who has led efforts in Congress to pass the Historic Homeownership Assistance Act, will address the issue of tax incentives for restoring older houses.

Nationally acclaimed preservation expert Stanley Love will speak on "The Dollars and Sense

of Saving Historic Neighborhoods."

He will also share his extensive experience in the revitalization of Pittsburgh.

He will be joined by Howard Slaughter, the Director of Fannie Mae Pittsburgh, and Scott Brown, Senior Vice President of Mellon Bank.

Ellen Guccione, Historic Preservation Director of the City of Coral Gables and other community leaders will discuss strategies that can be used in making historic preservation policies successful locally.

The workshop is sponsored by

Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, and the City of Miami Alliance of Historic Districts.

Support was received from the Wyndham, US Airways, Alamo, The Elizabeth Ordway Dunn Foundation, and the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, assisted by the Historic Preservation Advisory Council.

Cost of the workshop is \$17.50, which includes lunch.

To register, call Dade Heritage Trust at (305) 358-9572.



Florida PIRG

The Florida Public Interest Research Group (850) 224-3321 voice (850) 224-1310 fax
704 West Madison Street, Tallahassee, FL 32304

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 1999

CONTACT:

Jolinda Buchanan (850) 224-3321
Becky Roper Matkov (305) 358-9572

NEW REPORT CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PROTECT MIAMI CIRCLE AND OTHER FLORIDA TREASURES

Miami, Florida - Today, Florida PIRG, the Sierra Club and the Dade Heritage Trust, released "Saving America's Geography of Hope: Why Congress Must Protect Our Land and Ocean Legacy." The report profiles the Miami Circle, Everglades, the Keys, and 40 other special places that could be protected if Congress passes strong conservation funding legislation this Fall.

The report, authored by the State PIRGs, Defenders of Wildlife, Sierra Club, Center for Marine Conservation, Trust for Public Land, World Wildlife Fund, Scenic America, Environmental Defense Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Parks and Conservation Association, The Wilderness Society and The National Trust for Historic Preservation, illustrates the kinds of special places that could be protected if strong conservation funding legislation became a reality.

"Millions of acres of America's natural heritage have been degraded, destroyed and developed. All across the country, historic structures are in disrepair, parks are closing, farmland and open space are disappearing, and wildlife is declining," declared Jolinda Buchanan, Florida PIRG's field director. "We are losing the wild and special places that environmental writer Wallace Stegner called our 'geography of hope,'" added Buchanan.

Here in Miami, an archeological mystery was discovered less than a year ago which captivated the attention of the world. Located on 2.2 acres where the Miami River meets the Biscayne Bay, the Miami Circle is a one-of-a-kind discovery. It is thirty-eight feet in diameter and is comprised of a series of rectangular holes one to three feet in length, carved deep into limestone bedrock. Radiocarbon dating has indicated Miami Circle is at least 2000 years old. Scholars believe it was used for ceremonial or astronomical purposes, possibly by the now-extinct Tequesta Indians.

"Had it not been for the efforts of preservation groups like Dade Heritage Trust, a developer would have bulldozed it to build a high-rise parking garage last February," said Becky Roper Matkov, Executive Director of Dade Heritage Trust. "Its fate will be determined by a jury trial next month and will depend upon the ability of Circle supporters to raise the millions necessary to prevent the Circle from being lost forever," she added.

"The Miami Circle, the Everglades and South Florida's coral reef tract are like prized family heirlooms. We can either protect them for future generations, or we can pawn them now for a fast buck," said Jonathan Ullman, Sierra Club's South Florida/Everglades field representative. "We don't want tomorrow's children to have to read about these incredible places in a book and wonder why my generation didn't save them," he added.

Congress is currently considering several different versions of conservation legislation to fund a variety of programs benefiting our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, historic sites, coastal and marine ecosystems, and wildlife. The two main proposals are the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) of 1999 (S.25/H.R. 701), introduced by Senators Frank Murkowski (AK) and Mary Landrieu (LA) and Representatives Don Young (AK) and Billy Tauzin (LA), and Permanent Protection for America's Resources 2000 (Resources 2000 - S.446/H.R. 798), introduced by Senator Barbara Boxer (CA) and Representative George Miller (CA).

Unfortunately, there are some members of Congress who are pushing to include a number of environmentally damaging provisions, or "poison pills," into final legislation. These poison pills, many of which are found in the introduced version of CARA, include incentives for increased offshore oil and gas drilling, the use of coastal funds for environmentally destructive activities, and new restrictions on federal land acquisition already authorized by law.

"Congress and the Administration have an amazing opportunity in front of them. Success will mean a legacy of protected wildlands, coastal areas and open space, including the preservation of Miami Circle and the Everglades. Failure will mean a legacy of clearcuts, coastlines choked with oil spills, undrinkable water, and imperiled or extinct wildlife," said Buchanan

"We call on our south Florida congressional delegation and Senator Bob Graham to support strong conservation funding legislation and oppose the inclusion of such poison pills as new restrictions on federal land acquisition or the creation of incentives for offshore drilling. The time has come to save America's geography of hope," Buchanan concluded.

###

Florida PIRG is a non-profit, statewide environmental, consumer and good government advocacy organization.

The Dade Heritage Trust is Dade county's largest historic preservation organization, protecting Dade counties architectural, cultural and environmental heritage.

Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and largest environmental and conservation organization.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

**September 9, 1999 Press Conference-- Remarks by Dade Heritage
Trust Executive Director Becky Roper Matkov**

This past winter, an archeological phenomenon was discovered here in Downtown Miami that captivated the attention of the world. That discovery was "The Miami Circle"—located on this 2.2 acre sliver of riverbank, where the Miami River meets Biscayne Bay. The Circle is thirty-eight feet in diameter and carved deep into the limestone bedrock. Believed to have been a ceremonial or astronomical center, it has an east west alignment with the equinox and displays a sophisticated understanding of geometry. Carbon dating of artifacts has indicated it is at least 2000 years old. Whether built by the now-extinct Tequesta Indians or some other ancient people, the Miami Circle is a one-of-a-kind finding of national significance.

Had it not been for the efforts of preservationists, the Circle would have been bulldozed by a developer months ago to make room for a highrise parking garage. The Circle's monetary value will be determined by a jury trial in October. Miami-Dade County and supporters of the Circle will then have 20 days to raise the millions of dollars necessary to match the funding allocated by the State of Florida. If we fail to raise those millions, the Miami Circle—and all its mysteries—will be lost forever.

As the "Geography of Hope" report states, there may be a solution. If the U.S. Congress will pass strong conservation funding before October 1st, the Miami Circle will be eligible for millions of dollars from the Historic Preservation Fund (financed from revenues generated from OCS oil and gas leases.) We stand here today to urge Congress to ACT NOW to Save America's irreplaceable natural and historic treasures—like the Miami Circle—from disappearing under a blanket of concrete.



*House to
Vote Sept. 13th*

Full Funding Initiative for Historic Preservation to be Introduced in September!

Bill Could Include Historic Preservation Fund

Representative Don Young (R-AK) is set to introduce a new bill to permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) through revenues generated from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas leases. These revenues finance non-renewable resource projects which are directed through the LWCF and HPF. The LWCF funds programs which protect non-renewable natural resources while OCS revenues directed through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) support programs for historic and cultural resource preservation.

ACTION NEEDED

Preservation Advocates should call members of the Senate Energy Committee and House Resources Committee listed on the next page using the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121. You should also call and e-mail your own Representatives and Senators using the National Trust's web site (www.nationaltrust.org). Urge them to include the HPF in any final OCS bill for the following reasons:

- restoration of the built environment is of equal importance to natural resource protection and contributes to the preservation of the nation's environmental and natural resources by containing urban sprawl;
- the HPF supports programs -- including the administration of the federal rehabilitation tax credit and providing grants-in-aid -- that restore existing buildings, revitalize neighborhoods, and prevent environmental degradation while helping citizens and communities restore their most treasured cultural resources.
- the HPF is the primary source of federal revenue to finance the national preservation program, including the State Historic Preservation Offices, Tribal preservation programs, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and the "Save America's Treasures" Program; and
- the HPF deserves to be fully and permanently funded because the Fund historically has received only one-third to one-half its authorization of \$150 million annually (currently \$81.162 million), compromising its ability to achieve its historic preservation aims.

Urge the House and Senate committee members to support the inclusion of the LWCF and the HPF in any compromise bill introduced in the coming weeks and strengthen the link between cultural and environmental resource protection.

For further information about the funding initiatives pending in Congress, visit the National Trust's web-site at www.nationaltrust.org and click on the Preservation Advocacy section. Follow the link to Non-Renewable Resources for a brief sheet and a sample e-mail letter to send to your congressional representatives.

Protecting the Irreplaceable

1785 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
202•588•6000 • FAX: 202•588•6038 • TTY: 202•588•6200

• WWW.NATIONALTRUST.ORG

House Committee on Resources

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 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Mary L. Landrieu, La.
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Blanche Lincoln, Ark.

Media takes a whack at Miami Circle issue

By Sebastian del Mármol

It was inevitable. The media darling that was the Miami Circle, the archaeological site found at the mouth of the Miami River, has recently encountered the dark side of the press.

After benefiting from an onslaught of positive coverage for more than half a year — including print, radio and television coverage domestically and internationally — the Miami Circle appears to be suffering from something of a backlash.

Recently, articles in both the Florida edition of the *Wall Street Journal* and *Archaeology Magazine* have cast a disparaging light on the effort to save the site from demolition and the origins of the site itself, respectively.

The *Wall Street Journal* article titled, "The Miami Circle Faces a New Threat: A Big Triangle," documents infighting between individuals and organizations which once were united in their efforts to save the site from demolition.

According to the article, many preservationists working to save

the Circle do not even talk to each other as a result of disagreements on fundraising efforts.

The article also dubiously portrays some of the organizations created to raise funds for the purchase of the Circle. A jury will determine how much Miami-Dade County will have to pay for the Circle property if the county in fact decides to buy it. Estimates on how much the property will cost range from \$15 million to \$40 million.

Earlier in the year, a circuit court judge ruled that it was in the best interest of the county to purchase the site from property owners. While the newspaper article presents a negative picture on some of the individuals who are working to save the Site, the *Archaeology Magazine* story casts doubt on the authenticity of the Circle as a historical structure.

Jerald Milanich, a curator at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville, wrote the article and questioned the discovery's significance.

"Milanich dismissed 'inconclusive' findings in the structure and insisted that more study of the

should be done to prove that the structure is not a septic tank built in 1950.

Bob Carr, director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy who has led the effort to save the Circle, said that Milanich's story raised points that have already been addressed.

"What (Milanich) conveniently leaves out of the story is that we brought in an independent panel of archaeologists who completely verified that the Circle was part of a prehistoric site and not a septic tank," Carr said.

Carr went on to say that the recent negative press which the Circle has received is not unexpected.

"Whenever you have any great success story there will be people who want to debunk and diminish it. It's a media phenomenon. There is a desire to find a different spin on the story," he said.

Although Carr said that the recent stories have little, if any, basis in fact, he acknowledged that they may have a detrimental effect on the future of the Circle.

"Decision makers have to have a comfort level with the Circle

and these recent news stories work against that," he said.

In spite of the recent criticisms, Becky Roper Matkov, president of the Dade Heritage Trust, said that the movement to save the Circle is still in tact.

Matkov vehemently objected to any notion that the Circle was a 20th century creation saying that all testing of the site confirms ancient origins.

"All archaeological tests conducted on the site undeniably prove that it was not built in the 20th century," she said.

Matkov went on to say that not knowing all the specifics about the Circle should not detract from its significance.

"Even though we don't know the exact history of the Circle it's still very valuable. It's like Stonehenge... not having all the answers is part of the intrigue and mystery," Matkov said.

Although she admitted that fundraising efforts have been static in recent months, Matkov said that she expected residents to "come together again" to save the Circle as its purchase date nears.

LOCAL

www.herald.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1999

The Herald

Circle appraisers split on property's value

\$27 million gap between estimates

By DON FINEFROCK
Herald Staff Writer

Four experts who took a look at the Miami Circle to determine how much the county should pay to preserve the mysterious stone carvings have an answer.

Four of them, in fact. The riverfront property is worth \$15 million. Or \$42 million. Or something in between, depending on which expert you ask. The difference stems in large part from a disagreement over how much profit the property owner should make.

The expert opinions were made public this week after lawyers for Miami-Dade County, which wants to buy the property, and developer Michael Baumann, the reluctant seller, traded appraisals.

Archaeologists say the limestone carvings could be part of a ceremonial temple built hundreds

or even thousands of years ago by Tequesta Indians. Although some experts dispute that finding, county officials agreed in February to seize the property and preserve the circle.

The appraisers were called in to determine a more contemporary issue: How much should the county pay Baumann for trumping his development plans?

Baumann had planned to build two residential towers on the 2.2-acre property, but the project was frozen after the county went to court.

Now, a jury of 12 will decide how much the property is worth, after a trial that is scheduled to begin in October.

That decision will be based in part on what the experts have to say.

PLEASE SEE CIRCLE 48

UF archaeologist doubtful of origins

By MARTIN MERZER
Herald Senior Writer

A prominent Florida archaeologist is resurrecting an alternate theory, previously debunked, to explain the origin of the Miami Circle. Maybe, he says, it's not a historically valuable stone carving. Maybe it was created by runoff from a modern septic tank.

Writing in the current issue of Archaeology Magazine, a bible of that scientific discipline, archaeologist Jerald Milanich explored a possibility raised by several observers after the 38-foot-wide Circle was discovered last year in downtown Miami.



CHUCK FADELY / Herald Staff

STUDY HALTED: Experts all seek further study of the Miami Circle. Rectangle in foreground is an old septic tank.

PLEASE SEE SEPTIC, 48

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Circle appraisers split on property's value

CIRCLE, FROM 1B

Not surprisingly, the appraisers hired by Baumann delivered the highest estimates. Appraisers Heyward Cantrell of Jacksonville and Barry Diskin of Tallahassee priced the property at \$38 million and \$42 million, respectively. Two appraisers hired by the county — Bob Gallaher and L. Glenn Johnston — pegged the price much lower. Gallaher calculated the fair market value at \$17 million. Johnston's appraisal came in at \$15 million. So why such a big difference? Assistant County Attorney Thomas Goldstein said some of the gap can be attributed to how the appraisers valued Baumann's

lost profits. One of the county's two appraisers said Thursday that his appraisal would compensate Baumann for one third of his estimated lost profits. Gallaher of Hedgpeth & Gallaher said projects can be divided into three components: Planning, construction and marketing. Since Baumann had planned his project but not broken ground, he is entitled to a third of his potential profit, about \$3.5 million, Gallaher reasoned. He valued the land at about \$10.3 million. Baumann paid \$8 million for the land last year. "We looked at what the land was worth, based on recent sales. To that, we added his out-of-

FAR APART

The four appraisals made public this week for the Miami Circle property start at \$15 million and peak at \$42 million. Here are two reasons why the appraisers are so far apart:

- **The development.** Should developer Michael Baumann be compensated for the 600 units he planned to build on the property or the 400 units for which he had financing? Baumann wants to be paid for all 600; the county says 400.
- **Lost profits.** Baumann's attorney says the developer should get a large share of his lost profit since the riskiest part of the project is past. The county says Baumann may be entitled to a third of his profit since the project is planned, but not built or marketed.

pocket costs and we added a percentage of the profits if the development had gone forward," Gallaher said. "It is very unusual to do that, but this deal is unusual," he added. "The property is more or less being snatched out from under him." But Toby Brigham, an attorney for Baumann, said the developer is entitled to a bigger share.

Brigham and Goldstein said there's another reason why the two sets of appraisals are so different. Baumann wants to be paid for the 600 units he planned to build, not just the 400 for which he had financing. The county disagrees. "Whether Phase Two ever takes place is anyone's guess," Goldstein said. e-mail: dfinetrock@herald.com

UF Archaeologist doubtful of Circle origins

SEPTIC, FROM 1B

He noted that a concrete septic tank, connected to a building erected in 1950, was found inside the Circle's southern arc. The Circle was unearthed last year on a 2.2-acre site along the Miami River next to Brickell Avenue. Perhaps the Circle was formed in modern times by chemical runoff from that septic tank. It was intentionally carved to enhance septic tank drainage, said Milanich, curator of archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida in Gainesville. "I intend to remain skeptical until sufficient evidence is collected to prove that the Miami Circle was built by Native Americans one or two thousand years ago and is not a 20th Century artifact," Milanich wrote near the end of the four-page article. But many archaeologists and geologists said the evidence already exists and is being ignored by Milanich. They said the Circle almost certainly was created by the now-extinct Tequesta tribe. "We've already refuted this business about the septic tank and now we have to do it again, on a national level," said archaeologist Robert Carr, the circle's project director and recently retired director of the Miami Dade Historic Preservation Division. "What he ignores are

the facts he's been presented with." The case by Carr and other local experts: ■ County records show that the septic tank did not have a drain field. Instead, effluent flowed into a pipe and then directly into Biscayne Bay. ■ The holes that comprise the Circle are rectangular in shape and thus could not have been formed by natural processes. In addition, markings inside the holes have been associated with tools used by the Tequesta. ■ Ancient artifacts and deposits were discovered inside the holes — so the holes must pre-date the ancient material found within. ■ An extremely slow-forming chemical "soil crust" is present throughout the area — but was not found on the inner surface of the holes. That indicates that the holes are "newer" than surrounding rock but still could be old enough to have been carved by the Tequesta. ■ The Circle is similar, in size and design, to ancient circular structures uncovered in southwest Florida. ■ An independent group of scholars, including a University of Florida colleague of Milanich, examined the site in May and concluded that "the existing archaeological evidence strongly supports the premise that the Miami Circle was constructed by an aboriginal Florida society once residing on the banks of the Miami River in what is now downtown

Miami." Harold Wanless, chairman of the University of Miami's geological sciences department, examined the Circle many times. Could it have been created by a septic tank or any other natural process or by any modern craftsman? "No," Wanless said. "It's an awfully straightforward thing, which is why so many scientists are truly excited about it." Jim Miller, the state archaeologist and chief of the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, agreed with Wanless and the others. "To my satisfaction, the proposal that these holes were dug when the septic system was installed — that's rejected," he said. "It just can't be." Milanich could not be reached for comment Thursday, but two of his points elicited agreement from Miller: Relentless scientific debate is healthy, and the Miami Circle needs more study — though a court order currently forbids that. Access to the site is blocked pending resolution of Miami-Dade County's condemnation proceedings. "I think a lot of people are frustrated that the court has made it impossible to consider any information other than what we already have," Miller said. e-mail: mmorzer@herald.com

FLORIDA

NO. 8 SEPT/OCT

INTERNATIONAL

A MAGAZINE OF LIFESTYLE CULTURE & BUSINESS

STAR LEGENDS

SHARON STONE

BETTE DAVIS

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DIANA ROSS

SKREBNESKI: THE
FIRST FIFTY YEARS

TV SHOWMEN

THEIR PASSION
FOR FLORIDA

RACE TO THE FINISH
IT'S ALL ABOUT SPEED

THE FORCE OF FASHION

DRESSED FOR ANOTHER
STRATOSPHERE

DISCOVER FLORIDA'S
CELESTIAL UNIVERSE

CELEBRATE 2000
ART NOUVEAU
SPACE AGE TRAVEL
AUTO INNOVATION
BEYOND Y2K

MILLENNIUM

CIRCLE OF INTRIGUE

A TREASURE FROM TWO MILLENNIA PAST

BY BECKY ROPER MATKOV

An amazing archeological discovery on a sliver of Miami waterfront slated for highrise construction may change the way we view the history of this part of the world.

What began as a routine archeological dig on the south bank of the Miami River in the summer of 1998 at first only piqued the public's curiosity. By December, archeologists had unearthed a mysterious circular formation, 37 feet in diameter, carved deep into the oolitic limestone bedrock. They had discovered the skeleton of an interred six-foot shark, a ceremonially-placed basalt ax and a carved stone eye facing due east. The community was intrigued. Local residents and tourists began arriving at the site in droves. By March 1999, the "Miami Circle" had spawned international media coverage and enough colorful characters, political interest and courtroom drama for a bestselling novel.

THE UNVEILING

The story began when developer Michael Baumann purchased 2.2 acres just to the east of the Brickell Avenue Bridge, on the south side of the Miami River. He paid \$8 million for this prime real estate, located where the river meets the waters of Biscayne Bay. He demolished the four-story Brickell Point Apartments, which had been constructed in 1950, and planned to build two 58-story mixed-use towers.

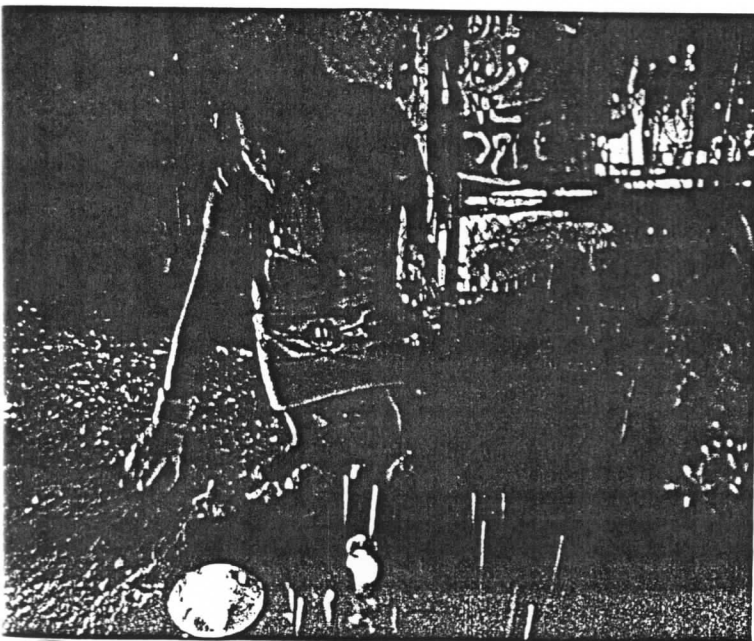
In the 1870s, Miami pioneer William Brickell had built a trading post and family home on a large parcel which included this site. The Brickell mansion was demolished in 1964 and replaced by what is now the Sheraton Biscayne Bay Hotel, with the remaining land on the south becoming Brickell Park. Centuries earlier, the land was part of the aboriginal village of Tequesta, which was located on both the north and south sides of the Miami River.

Bob Carr, the calm, soft-spoken director of Miami-Dade County's Historic Preservation Division and a respected archeologist with 25 years of experience, headed the monitoring team that set out to conduct a routine pre-construction assessment of the site. Archeologist John Ricisak, tall and muscular, supervised the on-site crew, which included many students and volunteers. Working in five-foot squares, the laborers painstakingly scraped three feet of dirt down to bedrock, sifting and digging under a blazing sun. Though the archeological team had good reason to expect to find some artifacts of historic interest on this tract, they had no idea they would discover something so important, so integral to the site itself, that pandemonium would ensue.

The 72-year-old professional surveyor for the dig, T.L. Riggs, was the first to discover the circle formation. After noticing that four somewhat rectangular holes cut into the bedrock appeared to form an arc, Riggs used geometrical calculations to predict (correctly) the location of a symmetrically-formed circle. He also discovered postholes that were precisely aligned with the summer and winter solstice sunrises and the equinox. These bolstered his belief that the Circle functioned as an astronomical observatory and that it was built by members of an early Meso-American culture who crossed the Gulf in large sailing canoes.

PROTESTS OF PASSION

As the developer was on the verge of demolishing a one-of-a-kind archeological treasure to build a parking garage for a skyscraper, Dade Heritage Trust, a feisty historic preservation nonprofit group, desperately sought a legal injunction and political support to stop him. School children wrote letters and sang songs at Commission meetings. Activists held candlelight vigils at the site. Environmentalists called for a greenway park. Downtown merchants envisioned heritage tourism profits. Native Americans danced and beat drums through the night. Shamens chanted and burned incense. Drivers honked to show support. Miami Circle websites received thousands of visits a day. Talk shows compared the Circle to Stonehenge. ▽



Mayan healer Geeta "Sacred Song" performs a cleansing ceremony at the site of the Miami Circle. Photograph by Michael Landsberg.

Petitions arrived from around the world. Spiritualists declared the Circle a symbol for the new millennium.

City of Miami Mayor Joe Carollo and the City Commission promoted a plan to dig up the Circle and move it to Coconut Grove. The stonemason hired to do the work, Josh Billig, ultimately refused. Miami-Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas made the gutsy political decision to go for eminent domain. After public meetings ringing with passion and eloquence, the County Commission agreed. The County and City sued each other. Detractors satirized the Circle as a fraud. The Elizabeth Ordway Dunn Foundation provided funds to carbon-date artifacts, proving the Circle was at least 2000 years old.

Governor Jeb Bush and the Cabinet authorized the State of Florida to fund half the purchase price of the Circle. U.S. Senator Bob Graham explored making the Circle a part of Biscayne National Park. The Miami Circle case went to court and was delayed. Fundraising events for the Circle were planned amid uncertainty over the outcome of the jury's verdict.

TRACED TO TEQUESTA

Carr has stood firm in his belief that the builders of the Miami Circle were most likely the Tequesta Indians, though he stated that the Circle was unlike any other Tequestan site he had ever seen. The Tequesta, who once numbered about 10,000, ranged over what is now Dade and Broward counties down to the Keys, living near the mouths of rivers. They worshiped animals and the sun, and believed that humans had three souls that resided in their eyes, their reflection and their shadow. Exploiting the rich marine and coastal environment enabled them to develop a complex society without an agricultural base.

The Tequesta were cordial to the early Spanish explorers and soldiers who arrived on Florida's shores in the 1500s. A Jesuit, Brother Francisco Villareal, was sent from Cuba to establish a mission and convert the Indians to Catholicism. Chief Tequesta's brother went to be baptized in the cathedral in Seville, where he was received royally.

Though the mission at Tequesta was closed in 1570, the Tequesta remained allies of the Spanish over the next century. As British colonists settled on Creek Indian land in Georgia and the Carolinas, renegade Creeks — later to be called Seminoles — threatened both the Spanish and Tequesta. Decimated by diseases and plundered and enslaved by Creeks, the Tequesta asked Cuba for permission to immigrate to Havana. In 1763, at the Treaty of Paris which ended the Seven Years' War, Spain

ceded Florida to England. The last of the Tequesta — only about 80 in number — followed the retreating Spanish to Cuba, where they disappeared from the pages of history.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

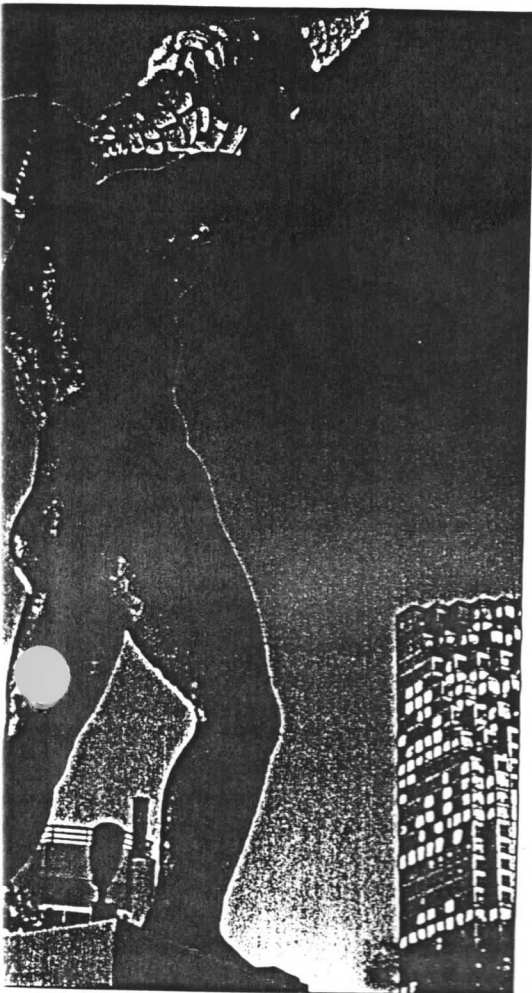
Whether the Miami Circle is indeed of Tequestan origin, or existed long before the Tequesta, there is a mandate to save it. A jury will determine the value of the site this fall. Half the funds for the acquisition will come from the State of Florida. The other half — and it will most certainly be in the millions — must then be raised from individuals and foundations within 30 days of the decision.

If not, the enigmatic Miami Circle, encoded with thousands of years of history, the only cut stone formation of its kind in the United States, regarded as extraordinary by experts from around the world, will be bulldozed to make way for the ordinary and transitory. The question remains, will Miami become known for its unusual history, or be known for its history as usual? □

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Serendipitously, a beautiful testimony to the Tequesta Indians stands as a sentinel on the Brickell Bridge, overlooking the Miami Circle. It is a bronze sculpture created in 1995 by the Cuban-born artist Manuel Carbonell for a Department of Transportation design competition. A six-foot-thick bronze column rises 36 feet above the bridge span. Encircling this pillar are scenes of Tequestas hunting, fishing, fighting and celebrating. Crowning the top are the figures of a warrior shooting an arrow into the sky, a woman gazing off into the future, and an infant covering his face to ward off his doom.

Several other Carbonell bronzes of Tequestas adorn nearby Brickell Key. One depicts a warrior standing in a canoe. A fountain depicts Tequesta children playing with manatees. A 21-foot-high bronze of a Tequesta blowing an alabaster conch shell was dedicated this past summer, complete with a festive celebration. Commissioned by Swire Properties, this sculpture is called "El Centinela del Rio," and serves as a welcome to the Miami River.



"El Centinela Del Rio," a 21-foot-high bronze sculpture by Manuel Carbonell, was recently installed at the mouth of the Miami River. Photograph by Daniel Portnoy.

*The Tequesta,
who once numbered
about 10,000, ranged over
what is now Dade and
Broward counties down to
the Keys, living near the
mouths of rivers.*

Executive Committee Agenda for September 21, 1999
Dade Heritage Trust Headquarters
12 noon

Call to Order

Minutes

Treasurer's Report--Audit

Grants:

Dade Heritage Days grant to be reviewed by Miami-Dade Cultural
Affairs Council Sept. 23

Grant submitted for Wagner to be reviewed by Bureau of Historic
Preservation Oct 5-7 in Tallahassee

Grant submitted for Heritage Tourism to be reviewed by Bureau Nov. ?

Restoration Workshop Sept. 18--Action Plan being developed for possible City
grant

Revolving Fund Program October 7th--meeting with bankers?--board involvement

Lummus Park--a DHT Heritage Visitors Center?

Most Endangered Sites List

Miami Circle--legal issues

fundraiser Oct. 10th

press conference re tax bill--future PR

Preservation Today magazine--sell ads!--run list of Circle contributors

Miami's Historic Neighborhoods Book

Building Bridges Fundraiser at Deering--March 18--need committee members!--
meeting scheduled for Oct. 6, 5:30 p.m. at Luis Ajamil's office, 2601 Bayshore

Dade Heritage Days--meeting Oct. 13 for participants

Joint event to attract members with Florida Trust at Bonnet House in Ft.
Lauderdale--in Nov.? or Jan.?

December Holiday party--ideas for house?

Executive Director's Report for Sept. 22, 1999 DHT Board Meeting

Community Outreach and Meetings Attended

July 23--Discussion with Rem Cabrera re Cultural Affairs grant

July 23--Call to US Rep. Carrie Meek's office to encourage support of Graham's bill re Miami Circle

August 5--Met with overnor's Council for Sustainable Florida

August 11--Talked with Mrs. Frances Walker re donation of maps of Ives Dairy Farm area

August 18--Executive Committee meeting; met with Krassi Ivanov and Tour Committee re Historic Tours

August 20--Met with Barry Black and Flora Tartaglia re **Miami's Historic Neighborhoods** book

August 23--Met with Governor's Council for Sustainable Florida

August 25--Met with Fundraising committee meeting

August 30--Met with Carol Jacobs of Bernard Zysovich re **Preservation Today**;
Met with Krassi Ivanov re Lummus Park and tours

August 31--Met with DHT Historic Tours Committee and City staff re Lummus Park as heritage visitors center

September 1--Met with Flora Tartaglia re leads for **Miami's Historic Neighborhoods** book profiles

September 7--Met with Krassi Ivanov re Lummus Park

September 8--Met with Historic Tour Committee;
Met with Dade Heritage Days Committee
\\

September 9-- Participated in Press Conference re Congressional funding for preservation which would help Miami Circle;
Met with Miami Circle Task Force;
Met with Restoration Workshop Committee

September 13--Met with Enid and School Administrators from Roger Cuevas's office

September 16--Attended GMCVB's Invitation to the Arts at TOPA

September 17--Attended reception and dinner for Stanley Lowe, Scott Brown and Dan Holland, speakers from Pittsburgh for "Dollars and Sense Restoration Workshop"

September 18--Spoke at and supervised "Dollars and Sense Restoration Workshop" at Omni's Wyndham Hotel

September 21--Met with Dolly MacIntyre, Penny Lambeth and Debbie Tackett re PR plan; Executive Committee meeting

Administrative and Fundraising

Wrote and submitted Dade Heritage Days grant to Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council

Wrote and submitted "Saving and Seeing Historic Sites" grant to State Bureau of Historic Preservation

Wrote letter to 900 National Trust members to invite them to join DHT and mailed along with our **Preservation Today News**

Helped coordinate Miami Circle press conference

Secured free plane ticket from USAirways for Stanley Lowe

Obtained legislative letters of support for grants and wrote DHT support letters

Hired new staff person for Special Events and Dade Heritage Days

Arranged travel and logistics for upcoming Oct. 7th restoration meeting

DADE HERITAGE TRUST
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date:	August 19, 1999
Location:	DHT Headquarters

Present:	George Neary	Absent:	
Enid Pinkney	Becky Matkov	Thorn Grafton	
Bill Murphy	Guests:	Penny Lambeth	
Rachel Parsons	Donald Slesnick Jr.		
Jeanette Poole	Max		

The meeting was called to order by Enid Pinkney at 12:15 PM.

I. Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of May 25, 1999 was made by George Neary, seconded by Bill Murphy, passed.

II Treasures Report- Bill Murphy

Review Included:

1. The new year end audit
2. Recent changes in DHT bookkeeping that will more accurately reflect the Income/ Expenses.
3. Insurance renewal with ACC Hall

Motion to accept the treasurer's report and to hire ACC Hall as DHT's Insurance carrier.

Moved: George Neary

Seconded: Jeanette Poole

Approved

III. General Discussion

1. A new grant is being submitted to the Cultural Affairs Council asking for \$25,000 for Dade Heritage Days. The current budget for Dade Heritage Days is \$184,000.
2. Jeanette Poole is to chair a committee to focus on fund-raising for Dade Heritage Days. Among plans to be discussed are combining DHT's "Building Bridges" fund-raising event with a Dade Heritage Days Kickoff event at the Deering Estate on March 18th, 2000.
There will be a Fund-raising Committee Meeting on August 23rd, at 5:30pm.
3. A new part time staff person has been hired for Special Events, Dade Heritage Days and Membership. Christina Miskis will be starting on August 23rd.
4. Becky Matkov is working on a Grant, which will be submitted, to the State Bureau of Historic Preservation. The grant will request funding to establish a DHT Website. The deadline for this application is August 30th. Donald Slesnick has volunteered to work with Becky on this project. Future grant requests will focus on "Women's Heritage sites in South Florida- A Self-guided Tour".
5. Restoration Workshop on September 18th, 9am to 3pm, Wyndham Hotel- "The Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods." Becky Matkov stated that this workshop is a "huge membership opportunity for DHT". She will be working with our membership co-ordinator to maximize this opportunity. Becky is also rewriting the press release for this restoration workshop, which will be ready for immediate release. DHT has secured the donation of one round trip airfare from US Airways for one of the three speakers for this event. DHT has committed \$1,500 for the "honorarium" for the three speakers and will purchase the two other plane tickets if necessary.

Prepared by: Rachel Perkins Parsons

The three speakers are Stanley Lowe, Howard Slaughter, and Scott Brown. U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw will give the opening address. Funding will come from the \$20,000 State Grant from the Bureau of Historic Preservation for the "This Old Florida Building" Restoration Workshops Grant.

- 6 Restoration Program on October 7th, 1999 with Harriet Plyler presenting her slide show on "Tampa Heights" at the UM Koubek Center. This program will be open to the public. The Koubek will be a Co-sponsor and will not charge DHT for the auditorium.
- 7 Bill Murphy is going to look into Northern Trust hosting a luncheon at which Harriet Plyler would address and educate bankers regarding establishing a revolving fund for restoration projects.
- 8 List of "Most Endangered Historic Sites"- George Neary-*** See attached List.
- 9 Florida Historic Tours- *** See attached Statement of Agreement- Becky is to meet again today with BAA to approve the statement, after which Tom Matkov has agreed to put the partnership agreement into a contract. George Neary again cautioned Becky to make sure that the Tour Company has all the appropriate insurance coverage.
- 10 Motion: For DHT to go ahead with the negotiations once the terms of the agreement are accepted.
Moved: George Neary
Seconded: Bill Murphy
Approved
- 11 Preservation Today Magazine: Becky Matkov again requests Board members help in selling advertisement for the magazine. Deadline for ads is August 30th, for September publication.
- 12 Miami Circle: Gary Held is DHT's Miami Circle Chair- The Board requested that DHT write a letter of support for the county's request for two million dollars in park bond money.
George Neary stated that DHT now needs to take the leadership role to help raise the funds to purchase the circle property. DHT has \$15,000 left in donations to be use to help raise money for the property. The issue will go to trial in October, with 20 days after the jury award to pay the money. The Executive Committee asked Becky to meet with Gary Held to advise DHT on the best course of action.
- 13 Preservation Today Newsletter- Dolly McIntyre is working on the newsletter which is to go out on September 1st.
- 14 Miami's Historic Neighborhoods Book- George Neary is to meet with Becky Matkov and Barry Black to enhance the mailing list for prospective profile sales.
- 15 Annual evaluation of Staff- Enid Pinkney presented Becky Matkov, Executive Director, request for a 7% increase in salary, from \$42,000 to \$45,000 annually, and to for an increase of \$100 per month, from \$200 to \$300 per month, for insurance contribution.
- 16 Motion: To increase Becky Matkov's salary from \$2,000 to \$45,00 annually, and to readdress the increase in insurance contributions in six months.
Moved: Bill Murphy
Seconded: George Neary
Approved

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Parsons

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FIRST VICE

PRESIDENT

Jeanette Poole

SECOND VICE

PRESIDENT

Thorn Grafton

TREASURER

William Murphy

SECRETARY

Rachel Perkins Parsons

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Richard Heisenbottle

Joyce Kory

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Blanca Mesa

Margaret Pelton

Judith Pruitt

Neil Robertson

Randall Robinson

BJ Smith

Gene Tinnie

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Sharon Clark

Gary Held

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Ruth Jacobs

Sallye Jude

Nancy Liebman

Leslie Pantin

Arva Moore Parks

Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk

Janice Pryor

M. Athalie Range

Norah Schaefer

Don Slesnick

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

Do you love:

Historic Tours?

Old Houses and Unique Gardens?

Historic Neighborhoods and Architecture?

Landmarks that can never be replaced?

Communities with a rich sense of heritage and place?

Then I invite you to join Dade Heritage Trust, the largest historic preservation nonprofit organization in South Florida. Since 1972, Dade Heritage Trust has worked to preserve the architectural, cultural and environmental heritage of Miami-Dade County.

We restore landmarks

like the Cape Florida Lighthouse on Key Biscayne

Dr. Jackson's Office and Surgery off Brickell Avenue

and the Wagner Homestead in Lummus Park on the Miami River.

We advocate

for historic resources like the Miami Circle and the Freedom Tower

for heritage education in schools

for tax incentives for the restoration of historic buildings

for revitalizing neighborhoods and creating Main Street programs.

We educate

with historic and architectural tours

open houses, workshops, lectures and exhibits

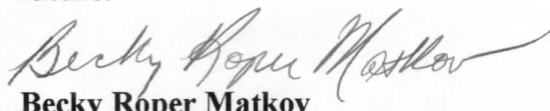
a quarterly newsletter

the beautiful Preservation Today magazine

and Dade Heritage Days, our spring celebration of South

Florida's history and architecture, with over 100 events.

What the National Trust for Historic Preservation does across this country, we do locally. Won't you support our efforts by joining? Your contribution would mean so much to our fight to preserve the best of the past for the future.



**Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director**

(OVER)

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EXECUTIVE

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Becky Roper Matkov

August 3, 1999

Secretary Katherine Harris
Department of State
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL . 32300-0250

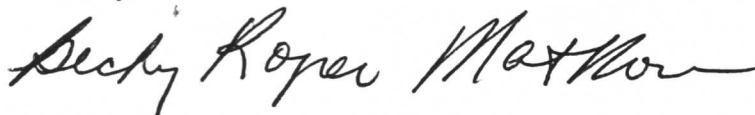
Dear Secretary Harris,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the Colony Theater's application for a Cultural Facilities grant.

Built in the 1930s as a Paramount movie theater, the Colony is poised to be a valuable cultural asset for our future. This grant will enable the Colony to host a wider range of performances on its stage and to become ADA compliant, making it accessible to all our citizens.

Your support of this grant application is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

August 4, 1999

Ms. Ellen Uguccioni
Director, Historic Preservation Department
City of Coral Gables
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Ellen,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to support the nomination of Gay Bondurant to the Historic Preservation Board of Coral Gables.

Gay is a long-time resident of Coral Gables who has been very involved in her community. She regularly gives Sunday tours of the Biltmore Hotel and has orchestrated numerous walking and trolley tours and conferences showcasing the heritage of Coral Gables.

Gay is a very knowledgeable preservationist who served on the Board of Trustees of Dade Heritage Trust for six years. For three years, she coordinated --as a volunteer-- Dade Heritage Days--an extraordinary accomplishment and commitment. She now serves on our DHT Board of Advisors and is an active and valued participant in many activities in the preservation arena.

Gay Bondurant would make an excellent addition to the Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

DEADLINE

**DADE
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August 10, 1999

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**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**
Becky Roper Matkov

Ms. Sharon Taylor
US AIRWAYS
Fax: 703-872-5656

Re: Donation of Three Plane Tickets for Historic Preservation
Conference in Miami

Dear Ms. Taylor,

Dade Heritage Trust, Miami's largest historic preservation 501(C)3, nonprofit organization, in cooperation with the City of Miami Alliance of Historic Districts, is sponsoring a conference Saturday, September 18, 1999 at the Wyndham Biscayne Bay in Miami, Fl., on the "Dollars and Sense of Saving Historic Neighborhoods." The registration fee has been kept low--only \$17.50 per person, including lunch--to attract people from a wide range of economic levels. We expect over 200 to attend, including U.S. Rep. Clay Shaw and many civic leaders.

Our guest speakers will include three nationally acclaimed experts from Pittsburgh, Pa.—Director of Public Housing Stanley Lowe, and preservationists Howard Slaughter and Scott Brown-- who will share their extensive experience in revitalizing Pittsburgh's blighted neighborhoods and historic districts.

We would very much appreciate your supporting this conference with a donation of 3 US AIRWAYS roundtrip tickets from Pittsburgh to Miami for Friday, September 17, 1999 with a return on Sunday, September 19. As a conference donor, US AIRWAYS will be named in the news releases we are mailing to local and statewide media, in the thousands of flyers we are distributing to our members, in the articles in our newsletters, and in the conference program.

Thank you very much for your prompt consideration.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director
Phone: 305-358-9572; Fax: 305-358-1162

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August 16, 1999

25th Anniversary Year

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EXECUTIVE

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Becky Roper Matkov

Cultural Affairs Advisory Board
City of Coral Gables
C/O Ellen Uguccioni
City Hall
405 Biltmore Way
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Dear Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Members,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation nonprofit organization, I am writing to encourage you to fund "A Guidebook to Coral Gables Architecture" by Richard Heisenbottle, Ellen Uguccioni and Aristides Millas.

The authors are seeking to produce this self-guided tour booklet in time for the national conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, which will be held at the Biltmore Hotel in June 2000. This will be a wonderful opportunity to present the history and sites of Coral Gables to an appreciative and knowledgeable audience from across the country.

In addition, the guidebooks will be of great value and interest to the public during Dade Heritage Days, our annual springtime celebration of Miami-Dade County's architectural and cultural heritage.

We urge your financial support of this most worthwhile undertaking.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR

Rocky Roper Matkov

August 20, 1999

Mr. Pablo Chao, Director
University of Miami Koubek Center
2705 S.W. 3rd Street
Miami, FL 33135

Dear Mr. Chao,

As promised, I am enclosing a photo from our Dade Heritage Trust Preservation Awards Celebration at Gusman Cultural Center on May 18, 1999, showing our President Enid Pinkney presenting Dean Carol Holden and you a 1999 Preservation Award for the restoration of the University of Miami's Koubek Center. We would be delighted for you to reprint it in your publications and press releases.

We would also love to feature the Koubek Center as the site of a program on preservation and neighborhood revitalization which we are planning for Thursday evening, October 7, 1999. Harriett Plyler, a dynamic community leader from Tampa and an engaging speaker who has spoken at National Trust conferences, is going to present a slide show on how her small nonprofit organization established a \$20 million revolving fund for the blighted Tampa Heights neighborhood, turning the whole area around to national acclaim. It is a story Dade Heritage Trust would love to duplicate in Miami, possibly in East Little Havana.

The Koubek Center would be an ideal location for this event, which will be open to the public, with reservations and a minimal charge required. We would envision a wine and cheese reception outside, tours of the historic house, and a presentation in the auditorium which would include the story of the Koubek Center restoration and Harriett's slide presentation.

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EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
Becky Roper Matkov

August 24, 1999

Mrs. John C. Walker
Walker Horse Farm
1101 Ives Dairy Road
North Miami Beach, FL 33179

Dear Mrs. Walker,

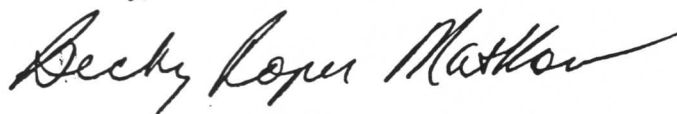
I so enjoyed meeting with you and Mr. Walker earlier this summer and seeing your beautiful horse farm and house--what a fascinating history it has! It was a genuine pleasure visiting with you both.

Dade Heritage Trust, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, so appreciates your donating five maps to our historic preservation organization. We had the maps appraised by Dr. Joe Fitzgerald, and his appraisal is attached. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

We wish you well in your plans to move--though we would love to see you stay close to Miami and become an active member of Dade Heritage Trust. You have so many wonderful memories to share!

I hope to see you again in the near future.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

Appraisal of Plats

Appraiser: Joseph H. Fitzgerald
Address: 1829 Espanola Drive Tel. (305) 446-8129
Miami, FL 33133

Purpose: Appraisal done for Dade Heritage Trust to
evaluate a donation from Mrs. Frances
Walker for tax deduction.

Client: Dade Heritage Trust

Qualifications of Appraiser: See enclosure.

Items: 5 Plat maps - see individual listing.

Description: All items were inspected by me and found to be in
fair condition. Some tears at the edges are present
and the paper has deteriorated as expected for
wood pulp paper stored in a less than archival
environment. No attempt at restoration has been
made. Most items are rolled.

Basis for evaluation: Except as noted on Item #5, most of the items
have little intrinsic value as collectors' items.
Consequently, sale price would be negligible.
However, the value of Items #1 through #4 is in
their local history value. Quite often plats such as
these are discarded and consequently the surviving
pieces are becoming scarce. Any study of local
history, geography, or development relies in part on
images such as these. Therefore, they are of great
value to local historians, developers, economists and
environmentalists for their factual content. The
only other sources of similar facts are word
descriptions which necessarily fall short. Any
image derived from such word descriptions is
conjectural and consequently subject to inaccuracy
and misinterpretation.

Total value of All Items = \$175.

COPY

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Becky Roper Matkov

DADE
HERITAGE.
TRUST

August 26, 1999

Mr. George W. Percy
State Historic Preservation Officer
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street #305
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Percy,

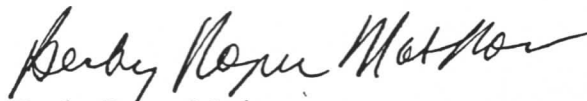
In behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to encourage your support of the grant application by the City of Miami Beach for the restoration of Fire Station #2.

Miami Beach is to be commended on its leadership in preserving historic resources. The Miami Beach Fire Department completed a full restoration of their earliest firehouse, and they are now ready to restore # 2, which will enhance even more Miami Beach's architecturally and historically rich environment.

We urge your support of this worthy undertaking.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

August 30, 1999

Mr. George Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Percy,

On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to support the grant application submitted by the City of Opa-locka through its Historic Preservation Board. The grant application requests funding to conduct an updated survey of the historic preservation properties in the city.

The City of Opa-locka is to be commended for demonstrating a commitment to preserving its historic character. We encourage your support of their efforts.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

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Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

August 31, 1999

Save America's Treasures
Preservation Planning Fund
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20036

Re: The City of Miami Beach's Old City Hall

Dear Save America's Treasures Staff:

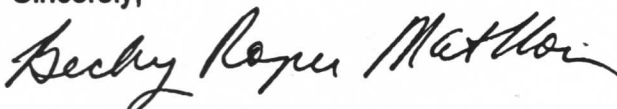
On behalf of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami-Dade County's largest historic preservation organization, I am writing to support the City of Miami Beach's application for a grant from the Preservation Planning Fund for Old City Hall, an Official Project of *Save America's Treasures*. Old City Hall is an imposing, nine-story building built in 1927 and situated in the famed Art Deco Historic District of the National Register of Historic Places. In 1983 Old City Hall was individually designated a local historic structure.

Architecturally, Old City Hall is a flagship example of the Mediterranean Revival style, the "style of choice" during the first economic boom in the early 1930's on Miami Beach. More importantly, Old City Hall was the heart of the Miami Beach municipal government for over 50 years. Today, it functions as a mixed use building which includes a municipal courthouse.

Forever an elegant beacon of hope and heritage, Old City Hall represents the unwavering resolve of the Miami Beach community. It is a treasured part of our cultural heritage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director

SAMPLE LETTER OF SUPPORT

**Mr. George Percy, Director
Division of Historical Resources
and Members of the Historic Preservation Advisory Council
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough St.
Tallahassee, Fl 32399-0250**

Dear Mr. Percy and Council Members,

We are writing to encourage your support of Dade Heritage Trust's Community Education grant application entitled "Saving and Seeing Historic Sites: Using Heritage Tourism to Preserve Historic Resources."

This project will create a series of unique tours of historic sites in South Florida including a women's heritage tour that will tie in with the women's history curriculum in the public schools. The project will also provide a first-rate website that is a preservation and heritage tourism resource center for our region, and will produce a publication spotlighting our local heritage sites and the economic benefits of heritage tourism. By linkages with other organizations locally, nationally and internationally, and by Dade Heritage Trust's extensive marketing efforts, this project will be of enormous benefit to our local community and the State of Florida.

We urge your favorable consideration.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Becky Roper Matkov

**DADE
HERITAGE
TRUST**

September 17, 1999

Ms. Patricia Manfred
2181 Ocean View
Miami Beach, FL 33140

Dear Ms. Manfred,

Thank you so much for your tax deductible contribution of \$50 to Dade Heritage Trust's "Save Our Circle" Fund. As the historic preservation nonprofit organization that has taken the lead in efforts to save the "Miami Circle" on its original site on the Miami River, Dade Heritage Trust greatly appreciates your support of preserving the Miami Circle intact for the future.

The Miami Circle is truly a remarkable archeological discovery. Carbon dating has shown that it is at least 2000 years old, possibly much older. Thirty-eight feet in diameter and carved four-feet deep into the limestone bedrock, the Circle has a precisely cut east-west alignment to the equinox. Lead archeologist Bob Carr has stated that it is the only cut-stone circle formation found in the United States, and it is a finding of national--even international--significance.

As you may know, Florida Governor Jeb Bush and the State Cabinet have voted to allocate up to half the cost of acquisition of the Circle site, providing the County raises the other half of the funds elsewhere.

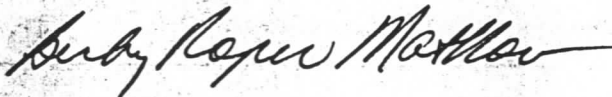
In October, a jury will be seated to hear the case and determine the value of the land. Within twenty days of the jury's decision, Miami-Dade County must come up with the extra millions it will take to purchase the Miami Circle site--or the developer will be able to keep the Circle and develop it.

Your support means a lot to those of us who have been working so hard to save this priceless treasure. It has been truly wonderful to see how deeply this mysterious monument from the ancient past has affected so many people of all races and cultural backgrounds.

Just a few months ago, everyone told us it would be impossible to save the Miami Circle--there was nothing that could be done to save this one-of-a-kind archeological site. Today, the impossible is indeed possible. But it is not yet a

reality, as much fundraising, legal work, public policy and long-range visioning remains to be done. But the dream has been articulated, and the first powerful steps have been taken. Thank you for reaching out to help--and if you know of any others who will follow your example, please let us know!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Becky Roper Matkov". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Becky Roper Matkov
Executive Director